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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

ART TATE, Assistant Director, University Relations
Office: (217) 581-5983 - Home: (217) 348-7553
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU PRESIDENT REQUESTS BOG REVIEW OF WALKER APPOINTMENT

CHARLESTON, IL--President Stan Rives has requested that Board of Governors Chancellor Tom Layzell appoint an appropriate individual who is not an employee of Eastern Illinois University to investigate the Faculty Senate's allegations concerning the appointment of Scott Walker and make appropriate recommendations.

In announcing his decision to the Faculty Senate, President Rives said he wanted "to assure the Faculty Senate that I am very much aware of the seriousness of the concerns expressed by the Senate" and "that was a powerful factor in my decision to call for an external, objective investigation and recommendation for appropriate action."

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Another factor in his decision, said Rives, "is the fact that I was necessarily involved in the appointment of Scott Walker." University policy concerning the employment of relatives requires non-participation in any personnel decision, including initial employment, by blood relatives. "Because of that policy," said Rives, "Vice President Armstrong could not be involved in the recommendation to appoint her son, Scott Walker, and the recommendation to appoint him as specified in our policy came to me as the next level supervisor. My own required direct involvement is another reason I have called for an external investigation and recommendation."

To assure a thorough and complete investigation, President Rives has requested that the Faculty Senate identify by October 30 "any and all other concerns the Senate may have regarding appointments in the Administration and Finance area of the University." Rives indicated that he wants "a thorough and complete investigation of any concerns the Faculty Senate may have regarding personnel decisions by the University."

"Because these are personnel decisions," said Rives, "I will have no further comment on the matter until such time as the external investigation is complete."